Sr.No.	State	No. of Vidyalaya's
23.	A & N Island	03
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	09
25.	Chandigarh	05
26.	Delhi	37
27.	Goa	05
28.	Pondicherry	02
29.	Mizoram	01
	TOTAI.	869

Drop-out rates of boys and girls

1746. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present drop-out fates for boys and girls, both in rural and urban areas, at different stages of school education;

(b) how these compare with fifties, sixties, seventies and eighties; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation, especially for the girl students, in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYS1NGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) According to the available information the drop out rate of boys and girls at different stages of school education is given below:—

	1960-61	1970-71	1980-81	1990-91	1998-99*
CLASSES I—V					
Boys	61.7	64.5	56.2	40.1	38.62
Girls	70.9	70.9	62.5	46.0	41.22
CLASSES I—VIII					
Boys	75.0	74.6	68.0	59.1	54.4
Girls	85.0	83.4	79.4	65.1	60.09
CLASSES I—X+					
Boys	—	76.81	79.80	67.50	65.44
Girls	—	84.96	86.63	76.96	70.22

* Provisional.
+ The fluctuation in the drop out rate is due to public examination after class X. This information is not available separately for rural and urban areas on an annual basis.

(c) The Central and State Governments have taken several steps to promote education of girls. These include microplanning and community mobilisation;

greater involvement of Panchayati Raj institutions; improvement of school infrastructure through Operation Black Board Scheme; establishment of separate schools for girls; provision of attendance scholarships; free text books and uniforms; exemption from tuition fees; appointment of more women teachers and provision of separate toilets for girls, scheme of alternative and innovative schooling for out of school children and girls, Mid-day Meals Programme and contextually relevant curriculum.

Inclusion of Dogri language in the Eighth Schedule

1747. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dogri had been recognized as an independent Modern Indian Language by the Sahitya Akademi, over a quarter of a century ago;

(b) whether there has been a persistant demand since then that Dogri be included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution; and

(c) if so, when Government intend to introduce necessray legislation for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The whole gamut of including new languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution is being re-looked into for evolving appropriate criteria therefor by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The question of introducing any legislation in this regard would arise only after the criteria are evolved.

UNICEF report on state of the World's ChiJdren-2000

1748. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report of UNICEF, titled "The slate of the World's children-2000", which puts India very much at the rock bottom with regard to survival, development and protection of millions of children;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and